

**AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 2-5, 7-9, 22-24, 29, 30, 32-34, and 39 to read as follows:

- 1        1. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:  
  
3              a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
4              at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
5              in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
6              oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
7              hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than  
8              32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.
- 1        2. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the viscosity of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil ~~being is~~ 67.8 cSt at 40° C.
- 1        3.(Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the flash point of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil ~~being is~~ at 240°C.
- 1        4. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the

2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the copolymer being  
3 ~~is a triblock copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652" with about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end~~  
4 ~~blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly (ethylene-butylene) mid block.~~

1       5. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the hydrocarbon oil  
3 ~~being is~~ 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer ~~being is~~ 16.2 weight percent of the  
4 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1       6. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:

3           a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and  
4           at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
5          in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
6          weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
7          the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and  
            the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1       7. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the viscosity of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil ~~being is~~ 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1       8. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the flash point of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil ~~being~~ is at 240°C.

1       9. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, ~~further comprised of wherein~~ the copolymer ~~being~~  
3 is a triblock copolymer of “Kraton® G 1652” with about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end  
4 blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly(ethylene-butylene) mid block.

10-14. (Canceled)

1       15. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the  
2 manufacture of candles, consisting essentially of:  
3              a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and  
4              at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
5              in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
6              weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
7              the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and  
            the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1        16. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition as set forth  
2        in claim 15, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is  
3        16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

17-20. (Canceled)

1        21. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:  
2              a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
3              at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4        in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
5        oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
6        hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than  
7        32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle  
8        maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as  
9        consequence of the combustion of a candlewick that extends through the candle and projects toward  
10      outside an end of the candle.

1        22. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, ~~further comprised~~  
2        ~~of wherein the candlewick being is~~ a cotton string imbued in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1        23. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, ~~further comprised~~  
2        ~~of wherein the candlewick being is~~ firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole ~~being is~~ is  
3        produced in the candle when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room  
4        temperature, ~~and~~ the passing hole ~~extending~~ extends through the candle in longitudinal  
5        correspondence to an axis of symmetry ~~etending~~ extending from a lower base of the candle.

1        24. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, ~~further comprised~~  
2        ~~of wherein the candle being is~~ formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the  
3        minor portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75  
4        to about 88 in weight percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock  
5        polymers and diblock polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 weight percent, the  
6        weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in  
7        relation to the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the  
8        hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being  
9        greater than 220°C.

1        25. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2              coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3              copolymer.

1        26.(Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

1 27. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the  
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 28. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the  
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 29. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 28, ~~further comprised~~  
2 ~~of wherein~~ the decorative elements ~~being~~ are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a  
3 portion of the candle adjacent to the candlewick.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The candle as set forth in claim 21, ~~further comprised of wherein~~  
2 the hydrocarbon oil ~~being~~ is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer ~~being~~ is 16.2 weight  
3 percent of the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 31. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:  
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and

3           at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4        in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
5        weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
6        the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and  
7        the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle maintaining a free  
8        standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as consequence of the  
9        combustion around a candlewick borne by the candle.

1           32. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, ~~further comprised~~  
2        of wherein the candlewick ~~being~~ is a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1           33. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, ~~further comprised~~  
2        of wherein the candlewick ~~being~~ is firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole ~~being~~ is  
3        produced in the candle when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room  
4        temperature, ~~and~~ the passing hole ~~extending~~ extends through the candle in longitudinal  
5        correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from a lower base of the candle.

1           34. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, ~~further comprised~~  
2        of wherein the candle ~~being~~ is formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the  
3        minor portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in

4 weight percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and  
5 diblock polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 weight percent, the weight percent of the  
6 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture  
7 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being  
8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 35. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

1 36. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

1 37. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the  
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 38. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the  
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1       39. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 38, ~~further comprised~~  
2       of wherein the decorative elements ~~being~~ are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a  
3       portion of the candle adjacent to the candlewick.

40. (Canceled)

1       41. (Previously added) A process of manufacturing a transparent, elastic and free standing  
2       candle body, comprising the steps of:

3              preparing a mixture comprising a hydrocarbon oil and at least one copolymer selected from  
4       the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in  
5       a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is greater  
6       than 32 cSt at 40°C, and a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C, and said at least  
7       one copolymer is in a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent;

8              stirring the mixture to make the mixture transparent;

9              pouring the mixture in a mold;

10          cooling the mixture in the mold to produce a candle body; and

11          demolding the candle body from the mold to obtain a transparent, elastic and free standing  
12       candle body.

1       42. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon

2 oil is 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1 43. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon  
2 oil is at 240 °C.

1 44. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the copolymer is a triblock  
2 copolymer of “Kraton® G 1652”.

1 45. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight  
2 percent and said at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture.

1 46. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the stirring step is conducted at a  
2 temperature ranging from 80 °C to 160 °C.

1 47. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at  
2 the pouring step is in the range from 150 °C to 160 °C to provide the clear and transparent candle  
3 body.

1 48. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at  
2 the pouring step is in the range from 100 °C to 120 °C to provide the candle body having air bubbles.

1       49. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, further comprising the step of:  
2              before the cooling step, placing a decorative element in the mold.

1       50. (Previously added) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition, comprising:  
2              a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
3              at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4              in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
5              oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
6              hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than  
7              32cSt at 40°C, with said hydrocarbon oil and said copolymer combined to provide an elastic mass  
8              that remains free standing while bearing a flame from combustion of said elastic mass.

1       51. (Previously added)The transparent, elastic and free standing composition of claim 50,  
2              wherein a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C.